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INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE

CONFIDENTIAL RIGA 000538

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/04/2018

TAGS: PREL UNGA LG

SUBJECT: LATVIA AWAITING COMMON EU POSTION ON KOSOVO ICJ

RESOLUTION AT UNGA

REF: SECSTATE 91908

Classified By: AMBASSADOR CHARLES W. LARSON JR. FOR REASON 1.4 (b)

(C) Poloff delivered reftel demarche to Aiga Liepina, the MFA Director of the Department of Human Rights and International Organizations, and Sarmite Danne, MFA First Secretary Interntional Organizations Department. Liepina stated that the GOL would support the common EU position, and had not considered how Latvia would act on this issue if one was not proposed. The GOL is not for the pursuit of an ICJ advisory opinion or against it. Generally, however Liepina did not believe that an advisory opinion would change the new reality of that region. She stated that Latvia basically agrees that the foundation of Kosovo's independence was political and not a legal, but stated she holds in high regard the authority of the ICJ in cases where it makes decisions (whether or not it was asked to decide on this issue).